

Youth Services

Building 8743, mil 485-7276/7003

Providers needed

Child and Youth Services is looking for spouses who love children and want to work out of their homes. The Family Child Care program needs child care providers in all housing areas, but especially in Strassburg, Neubrück and Birkenfeld. If interested, stop by the CYS central registration office on the second floor of the health clinic, Building 8743 and pick up an application. The next family child care briefing will be Jan. 8 at the CYS training room. Free FCC training is scheduled Jan. 13 – 23. For more information call Hildegard Bragg at mil 485-6588.

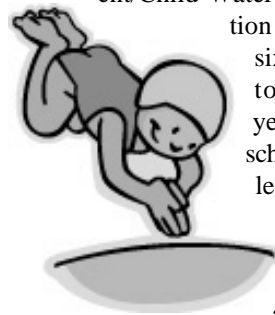
Teens, be job ready

The Job Ready program that introduces high school students to the work force begins Jan. 28. The program provides training, information and guidance to teens wishing to enter the job market. Job Ready also assists in developing interpersonal skills, and offers an opportunity for youth to learn how to advance from jobs to careers.

Classes will be held every Tuesday from 5 – 6 p.m. in the Teen Café. The first session covers customer service. Subsequent classes include communication skills, making career decisions, attitude in the workplace, interviewing skills, dress for success, resume writing and financial management. Interested teens may register by calling Youth Services at mil 485-7276.

Youth swim classes

Enroll your child ages six months and older for swim classes with Baumholder Child and Youth Services. Classes offered include: Parent/Child Water Orientation for ages



six months to three years; pre-school swim lessons for ages three to five; and Level

I, II, III, IV for ages six and up.

Children can participate in synchronized swimming, water polo, stroke improvement and water safety. The cost is \$45 for eight classes. Classes will be held on Wednesdays and Fridays at the Baumholder indoor swimming pool. The registration fee includes a skill level certificate.

Different cultures

Your sixth through twelfth grader can sample foods and experience cultures of nations around the world

MWR roundup

with Baumholder Youth Services. They'll be dining out Feb. 7 from 5:30-8 p.m. at a Soul Food restaurant in Landstuhl. The bus departs the Underground at 5:30 p.m.

Coaches needed

Baumholder Youth Sports Coaches are needed for all ages and sports. The perks are free training, certification and registration discounts for parents with children in the program.

Rheinlander

Building 8085, mil 485-7507

Sunday brunch

Visit the Rheinlander in Baumholder for their Sunday brunch Feb. 2 from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The buffet includes eggs, bacon, pancakes, shrimp, brötchen and much more. Reservations are not necessary, but are appreciated.

MWR job fair

Opportunity awaits job seekers at the Morale, Welfare and Recreation job fair on the second Wednesday of every month at the Rheinlander. Doors open from 9 – 10 a.m. Customers will learn of open MWR positions, have an opportunity to fill out applications and receive interviews on site.

Rod and Gun Club

Building 8167, mil 485-6345

Super Bowl party

Meet your friends at the Baumholder Rod and Gun Club for a Super Bowl party Jan. 26. The party begins at 10 p.m. with contests, free finger-foods and more. (Rudy's Super Bowl party begins at 8 p.m.)

Right on cue

Pool Tournaments are now happening at the Baumholder Rod and Gun Club. Tournaments begin at 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Prizes will be awarded to winners.

Gone country

If you love country and western, you'll feel right at home at Baumholder's Rod and Gun Club. Round up your friends for free country and western dance lessons every Thursday night and stop for country music on Fridays and Saturdays until 4 a.m.

ACS

Building 8746, mil 485-8188/6965

AFAP airs issues

The Baumholder community will

have their chance to put a voice to its concerns at the Annual Army Family Action Plan conference Feb. 4 and 5 at the Rheinlander Convention Center from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Every year the AFAP staff organizes this conference to give the community an opportunity to share quality of life issues with the installation and Army leadership

Delegates are selected to represent the community in work groups that will discuss and make plans for the individual issues brought forward prior to the conference. The issues can be anything concerning a quality of life issue with a broad impact on the Army and the military.

There are several ways to voice concerns for discussion at the conference. One is to email the concern/issue and how you would fix it to the AFAP point of contact at Elizabeth.Curran@104asg.mwr.army.mil. If you do not have internet access, then you may call or visit. ACS and they will gladly accept your issue. For more information or for volunteer opportunities, contact Beth Curran, AFAP coordinator.

Financial readiness

The Army Community Service Financial Readiness Program will begin offering financial readiness training for first term soldiers starting in January. Training will be conducted on the first and third Tuesday of every month in the ACS conference room.

This mandatory class discusses principles of personal finance to include: understanding the military pay system, planning and budgeting, banking and checking accounts, using credit wisely, getting insurance, saving and investing, making large purchases, consumer scams and where to go to get help.

The goal of the class is to take preventative measures to decrease the impact of personal financial problems on mission readiness. Even though this program is mandatory for first-term soldiers at their first duty station, it is beneficial for anyone looking for a refresher in basic personal finance.

The class can also be taught at individual units or organizations

upon request.

Consumer help

Baumholder Army Community Service Financial Readiness Program can assist in handling consumer complaints. This program is the military answer to the Better Business Bureau.

Job market class

The local job market orientation class provides valuable insights to the employment opportunities in the Baumholder community and its surrounding area. Participants receive information concerning military spouse preference, defining federal and private sector opportunities and application procedures, basic Resumix start-up information and volunteer opportunities. Classes are held every second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 9 – 10:30 a.m.

Golf course

Building 8888, mil 485-7299

Summer greens

Rolling Hills Golf Course is playing summer greens all winter long, providing there is no snow or frost. Golf rates start at \$9 for a full day of golfing. Winter hours are 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. daily.

Unit level golf pass

For \$400 customers can get a golf pass, one set of rental clubs and one driving range token. This is an ideal reward for soldier of the month or simply to have available to sign out.

Sports and Fitness

Building 8743, mil 485-7003

Goju lessons

Chinese Goju lessons are offered to youth and adults. Youth classes are held Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 6 – 7 p.m. at Baumholder High School and Mondays and Thursdays from 6 – 7 p.m. at Neubrück Gym. The cost is \$30 each month and includes an official patch, testing, advancements, belts and certificates.

Coach or play

The Baumholder sports office is looking for soccer and volleyball coaches and players. For more information call mil 485-6671/7176.

Home games

The following upcoming home community level basketball games are scheduled in the Hall of Champions:

- Feb. 8 vs Ramstein
- Feb. 9 vs Spangdahlem
- Feb. 15 vs Kaiserslautern
- March 1 vs Shape

Women's games are at 1 p.m. and the men's games are at 3 p.m. Game times are subject to change.

Bowling center

Building 8105, mil 485-6569

Nifty Fifties

Enjoy 50-cent bowling at Nifty Fifties night every Tuesday from 4-11 p.m. at the bowling center. Come out and enjoy the fun.

Auto Craft Center

Building 8438, mil 485-6344

Auto skills classes

Baumholder Auto Craft Center offers a Handling Auto Roadside Emergencies class Jan. 28 from 6 – 7 p.m. Call in advance to reserve your place in the class.

PCS your car

Make an appointment to get your wheels aligned at Baumholder Auto Crafts Shop. Let them handle your PCS car cleaning and they will clean the inside, outside and under the hood of your vehicle. They can also purge the fuel system.

Outdoor Recreation

Building 8895, mil 485-7182

Paintball games

Baumholder Outdoor Recreation organizes paintball games Saturdays from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. The cost is \$9 using personal equipment or \$19 to rent their's. If you'd rather play your own game, rent a set for \$12 (includes gun, CO2 tank and hopper).

Trips

Baumholder's Outdoor Recreation offers the following trips in January:

Trip to Frankfurt Zoo

Jan. 26

\$25 for adults and \$15 for children.

Bus departs at 7 a.m. and returns at 9 p.m.

Cost includes entrance fee.

Black Forest ski trip

Jan. 25

\$55 for adults, \$35 for children. Bus departs at 4 a.m. and returns at 10 p.m.

Ski the highest mountain in the Black Forest region. There are several different runs and a sledding slope.

Neuschwanstein castle

Jan. 25

\$65 for adults and \$35 for children.

The bus departs at 6 a.m. and returns at 10 p.m.

See your VA rep

Soldiers contemplating retirement or retired veterans living in the community can contact the Department of Veterans Affairs at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center for more information. That office is specifically geared to help soldiers on an MEB, The office is located at LRMC, Building 3700, Room 214. For details or to make an appointment call ACAP. A VA representative will be available in the latter part of January.

Tax center opens

The Baumholder Tax Center opens Jan. 27. Located in the 8th Finance building, hours of operation are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Fridays. Simple tax returns and 1040EZs can be prepared on a walk-in basis. More complex returns usually require an appointment. For more information about tax center operations, call the Legal Assistance Office at mil 485-6506.

Cadet honored

Eighth grader Jonathan Gilford was recognized by Baumholder’s 6th Army Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps as Cadet of the Month for December, 2002. Gilford is 14 years old and was born in Alabama. Gilford’s parents are 1st Sgt. and Mrs. Robert J. Gilford, 1 – 6 Infantry Battalion. Gilford has been promoted to cadet corporal.

Lost ID

People who lose their military identification card must now report the loss to the military police before applying for a replacement. Regardless if it is lost or stolen a new ID card will not be issued until the sponsor reports the lost or stolen ID card to the local MP Station. Staff sergeants and below must have a memorandum signed by the commander in addition to the MP memorandum. For more call your unit PAC or Detachment A, 90th Personnel Service Battalion at mil 485-6199.

Post notes

ACAP services

mil 485-6741/6330, civ (06783) 6-6741/6330

ACAP office hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ACAP is also open during lunch to assist clients. Soldiers scheduled to separate can get information about their options at ACAP. ACAP offers preseparation briefings, job assistance workshops and job assistance counseling that can help soldiers review their options and assess how the skills developed in the Army can be transferred into civilian life. Call ACAP for an appointment.

Preseparation briefing

Soldiers are required to complete a mandatory preseparation briefing at the ACAP office no later than 90 days before their separation date. Appointments are available every day at 9 a.m. and require approximately an hour and a half.

Job assistance

Army Career and Alumni Program offers job assistance workshops and counseling to help with the transition from the military to the civilian job market. Two-day workshops are offered every other Tuesday. The next workshops are Jan. 28 and 29 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Job assistance can also be accessed through ACAP’s computer system and covers such topics as how to create a resume, find jobs, network, and interview. Clients can cover topics by computer at their own pace.

Call to schedule an appointment, or drop by any afternoon to work with ACAP’s computer-based job assistance tools.

ACAP is open during training holidays but closes every other Thursday at noon for training.

Spouses can use ACAP

Any family member of a soldier scheduled to separate is eligible to receive services from the Army Career and Alumni Program. Orders are not needed and the sponsor does not have to be present for the spouse to attend ACAP classes or to receive assistance from ACAP counselors. Even if a soldier is deployed, spouses can still receive ACAP assistance in Baumholder.

ACAP offers job assistance workshops and professional counselors to help advise during the career transition process. Counselors will help clients think through issues such as a civilian budget, searching the job market, writing a resume, and preparing for job interviews. Take advantage of ACAP services now to begin planning for the future.

Learn the German language

Baumholder’s Adult Education Program will offer the following courses starting in January 2003: Gateway German will be offered at noon, Conversational German I and II, Conversational French I and English as a Second Language will be offered in the evening. Call Bill Badger at 485-8491 for more information.

University rep visits Baumholder

The University of Oklahoma field representative from Ramstein Air Base will visit the Baumholder Army Education Center on Feb. 5 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The representative may be reached daily at mil 480-6807.

Aviation night offered for teens

An aviation for teens night is scheduled Jan. 28 at 6 p.m. at the Vogelweh Community Center. For details call Raphael Eredita at mil 489-7752.

Soldiers now snuffing it out at clubs

By **Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava**

*222nd Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office*

No butts about it, club goers are now snuffing out their cigarettes before stepping into any U.S. military club.

A new policy making all U.S. military clubs smoke-free went into effect Dec. 7 as a result of an executive order by then President Bill Clinton that declares all U.S. military clubs as smoke-free facilities unless retrofitted with special ventilation systems.

To accommodate its customers who wish to smoke, the Rod and Gun Club's new Winter Garden room opened its doors in December. This new room is equipped with appropriate ventilation ducts that suck the smoke completely out of the room and allows customers to light up while the facility remains in compliance with the presidential order.

"DPW has done a really great job on the whole facility. Not only have they built this new addition to the club but they have done exten-

sive work on the outside of the club," said Mary Jane Spreier, Rod and Gun Club manager.

"They've painted the whole outside of the building. They've upgraded the front patio, made a really nice porch out of it with all new beams and railing," she said.

"Our customers are glad they have a room to smoke in. They really like it," said Spreier.

Looking ahead, the club has been earmarked for an additional \$330,000 worth of renovation in 2003 that will completely remodel the ballroom and create an additional smoking area inside the club. "The new smoking area should be complete by the end of January," said Spreier. During the April – May time frame the whole ballroom will be renovated and made into a community club said Spreier.

The club will take on a totally new look. "No more of the just country look. It's going to be a community club. We're also looking for a new name for the club," said Spreier.

The Rod and Gun Club is not the only facility on Baumholder affected by the no smoking policy.



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

The new winter garden at the Rod and Gun club is designed to accommodate smokers. All military facilities became smoke-free Dec. 7 as a result of presidential legislation.

"Our customers have to go outside. We don't have a retrofit in here," said Les Quick, bowling center manager.

With plans for a new bowling center down the road, the current facility is not scheduled to be retrofitted.

Rheinlander customers are luckier. The club has a winter garden and is allowing its clientele to use it when they need to light up.

Alcohol, drugs prove costly for soldiers

Sgt. Antonio A. Valladares, B Company, 2-6 Infantry, was found guilty on one count of driving under the influence of alcohol by a summary court-martial Dec. 18. His sentence was a forfeiture of \$1,219.

Spec. Efren R. Vega, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2-6 Infantry, was found guilty on one count of driving under the influence of alcohol by a summary court-martial at Baumholder, Dec. 18. He received a sentence of confinement

for seven days and forfeiture of \$1,000. He served his sentence in the Mannheim Confinement Facility.

Spec. Patrick J. Dennis, B Company, 2-6 Infantry, was found guilty on one count of driving under the influence of alcohol by a summary court-martial at Baumholder, Dec. 18. He received a sentence of confinement for seven days and was reduced to private first class. He served his sentence in the Mannheim Confinement Facility.

Spec. Justin R. Vondrak, B Company, 1-6 Infantry, was found guilty on one count of failure to be at his appointed place of duty, one count of absent without leave, and one count of wrongful use of a controlled substance by a summary court-martial at Baumholder, Dec. 20. He received a sentence of confinement for 30 days, reduction to private and forfeiture of \$737. He served his sentence in the Mannheim Confinement Facility.

Pfc. Jason J. Hall, B Company, 1-6 Infantry, was found guilty on one count of failure to be at his appointed place of duty, one count of absent without leave, one count of disobeying a lawful order, and one count of wrongful use of a controlled substance. He received a sentence of confinement for 30 days, reduction to private and forfeiture of \$737. He served his sentence in the Mannheim Confinement Facility.

Staff Sgt. Jason H. Kaufman, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4-27 Field Artillery, was found guilty on one count of wrongful use of a controlled substance and one count of wrongful possession of a controlled substance by a special court-martial at Mannheim, Germany on Dec. 30. He received a sentence of confinement for 14 days and reduction to private. He served his sentence in the Mannheim Confinement Facility.

It can happen to you - guard against identity theft

By **Capt. Catherine Lev**
Baumholder Legal Center

You receive bills for things you never bought. Collection agencies hound you for debts you never made. The bank refuses you a loan claiming you already took a loan from them while you know no such thing happened. Although it may sound surreal to have someone out there operating under your name and using your credentials, unfortunately, this does not just happen in James Bond movies.

Identity theft happens in real life and anyone can become a victim.

The good news is, there are steps you can take to reduce your chances

of becoming one and also to restore your good name. When it comes right down to it, for companies that provide goods and services you are just a collection of numbers on a database. Once someone obtains a few crucial pieces of information about you, they can obtain credit, goods, and services in your name.

That is what identity theft is all about. The question is, how do thieves get their information and how can you thwart their nefarious plans?

● They dig through your garbage looking for pieces of paper with numbers on them (bills, credit card offers, etc.). You need to shred

all such papers or tear them into very small pieces before throwing them out.

● They steal your mail and your wallet. You need to take precautions to guard your wallet from pickpockets. You may also consider using a mailbox that locks.

● They listen to conversations you have in public. You need to be discreet when revealing personal information in a public setting. If a bank teller asks you for an account number, show, rather than tell.

● They run scams on the telephone and on the internet. You need to learn not to fall for them. Avoid giving personal information

to strangers in these situations.

If you believe you are a victim, consider taking the following actions:

File a police report and get a copy of it.

Cancel all credit cards and get new numbers. Call the fraud departments of three major credit report agencies: Equifax (800) 525-6285, Experian (888) 397-3742, TransUnion (800) 680-7289. Ask them to add a "victim's statement" to your file. That will make creditors contact you before opening any new accounts in your name. Ask the credit reporting agencies for copies of your credit report.

If you lose your wallet, close all checking and savings accounts and open new ones. Stop payments on outstanding checks.

Get a new ATM card and a new PIN (Personal Identification Number).

Contact the Federal Trade Commission's identity theft hotline: 1-877-IDTHEFT. Ask for a copy of "ID Theft: When Bad Things Happen to Your Good Name."

For questions or concerns about identity theft call the Baumholder law center at mil 485-6506 or civ (06783) 6-6506. Remember, when it comes to identity theft, you can never be too careful.

Peace, good luck focus for new year

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

222nd Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office

Two Chimney sweeps adjust their black coats and place black cylinders on their heads. One holds a basket of pfennigs while the other's basket is filled with chimney sweep tokens. They take their place at the end of the reception line and prepare to greet the more than 300 German and American guests who are showing up to ring in 2003 at the Baumholder New Year's Reception. The sweeps along with the tokens and pfennigs they are giving the guests are traditional symbols of good luck.

One by one the guests file past Brig. Gen. Fred D. Robinson, Baumholder senior tactical commander, his wife Reva; and Lt. Col. Todd A. Buchs, 222nd Base Support Battalion commander and his wife Renee. At the end of the line are the two chimney sweeps who present each guest with the good luck pfennig and tokens.

After welcoming all the guests Robinson stands at the foot of the



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

German and American guests enjoy the buffet and each other's company during the annual Baumholder New Year's reception.

scrolling staircase that empties into the ballroom where the guests are already feasting on the elaborate fish and poultry buffet.

"Let me thank you for what you do every day for our soldiers," said Robinson.

The ballroom bustles with the

numerous military guests dressed in their formal blues that glitter with their countless accomplishments as they mingle with the German guests. Represented in the crowd are dignitaries, Polizei officials, doctors and other residents of Baumholder, Idar-Oberstein and the numerous sur-

rounding communities. German military guests are also present and all eyes are on Robinson who continues with his brief comments.

"During this time of turmoil when no one knows what the future's going to bring, I think it's only right that we get together and think about

peace," he said.

"I wish I knew more about the future, but I don't. But one thing I do know is, the relationship of the military community here in Baumholder is amazing. And what you the German population do for us, we can't thank you enough."

"For you leaders here who are wearing the uniform, what you do for our soldiers and our nation is truly amazing. And the spouses of these soldiers, officers, sergeants major, you really do make a difference every day. I personally owe you a deep debt of gratitude."

Motioning to the buffet Robinson said "If you've noticed, there's black-eyed peas." Robinson told the crowd that he was from Tennessee and in the south, "black-eyed peas are a tradition just like the pfennigs are and the chimney sweep."

"Many of you went by and rubbed the chimney sweep to hopefully get some luck. With the people in this room you really don't need luck because of all the caring and talent and dedication you have to mankind," he said.

Cinderella soldiers make it to the ball

Privates mingle with community rollers

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava
222nd Base Support Battalion Public
Affairs Office

The annual Baumholder New Year's Reception is a formal affair brimming with lots of military pomp and circumstance. It traditionally brings together all the movers and rollers of the community.

German and American dignitaries, both military and civilian gather to wish each other a happy new year and often to talk shop or even conduct a little business.

One would not expect to see a private or specialist let alone German citizens who have no connection with the military rubbing elbows with the community's elite at such an event.

It's a Cinderella story at Baumholder though because privates and grass roots German families have an opportunity to go to the "ball." For three consecutive years now, several German families with no connection to the U.S. military and line privates have received an invitation to mingle with the elite. The Germans are not village mayors, they hold no official office and the privates or specialists are not hand picked.

The German families are just common folk with a big heart who voluntarily offer to host a single soldier in their home during the

holiday season. Soldiers usually spend Christmas Eve with the families and enjoy a Christmas dinner. The families often invite the soldier back to celebrate New Year's. In gratitude, the commander extends an invitation to the families and the soldier they hosted to attend the New Year's reception.

Operation Good Cheer is the annual initiative that brings these families and soldiers together during the holidays. With assistance from the 222nd BSB Public Affairs Office, soldiers are matched with German families who volunteer for the program.

A few days before Christmas the families and soldiers meet and get to know each other at a dinner hosted by the 222nd BSB Public Affairs Office.

"We have families who have participated in Operation Good Cheer for several years," said Madeleine Dwoiakowski, 222nd BSB public affairs officer.

Participation in the program varies from year to year. Some years more soldiers participate in the program than families. No soldier, however, is left without a family because many families volunteer to take in more than one soldier.

"We have families who have taken up to four soldiers in for the holidays," said Dwoiakowski.



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

Pvt. 2 Gered M. Vinyard and his German hostess, Angelika Hettrich, make their way through the buffet line at the annual New Year's reception.